Excise duty on synthetim fabrics

854. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state whether Government have taken any steps for the reduction in excise duty on synthetic fabrics as was assured in the Textile Policy of June, 1985 so as to encourage domestic production of these fabrics and to curb smuggling?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): In pursuance of the Textile Policy, 1985, the Government has already taken a series of steps and has reduced the excise duty rates on polyester staple fibre, acrylic fibre, polyester cotton, polyester-viscose blended yarn and polyester-wool blended yarn.

The last modification in duty on man-made fabrics was done vide notifications issued on 19.1.1988.

Disciplinary proceeding against Shri C. S. Rajwant, Deputy General Manager, Punjab and Sind Bank

855. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Shri C. S. Rajwant, Deputy General Manager of Punjab and Sind Bank was suspended in 1985 but disciplinary action against him is being delayed by the management;

(b) whether he has also defraduded the Bank when posted at various places; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken against him?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) Central Vigilance Commission has intimated that department proceedings have been initiated against the officer, who had been placed under suspension by Punjab & Sind Bank from its services with effect from 14.9.1985. The charges against the officer include, amongst others, giving of unauthorised credit facilities to borrowers with some of whom he had personal dealings. The Commission has further intimated that the case has been entrusted to Commissioner for Departmental Inquiries (CDI) for inquiry. The Commission has been requested to expedite the inquiry.

Irregularities committed by Shri C. S. Rajwant, Deputy General Manager, Punjab and Sind Bank

856. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Shri C. S. Rajwant, Deputy General Manager, Punjab and Sind Bank made unauthorised advances to various parties for personal gains when posted at Calcutta and Bombay;

(b) whether it is also a fact that he purchased properties from Calcutta Towers, Calcutta, Kamal Builders, Builders, Bombay, M. L. Gupta Builders, Calcutta, Chains India, Calcutta; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action has been taken against him by the Bank authorities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) Punjab & Sind Bank has reported that the officer, while posted at Calcutta and Bombay as Zonal Manager, made unauthorised advances to borrowers, with some of whom he apparently had personal dealings. The Bank has further reported that the officer has purchased properties at Old Court House Street, Calcutta, and Borrivilli, Bombay, from M|s. Calcutta Towers, Calcutta, and M|s. Kamal Builders, Bombay, respectively.

(c) The Bank has reported that the officer has been placed under suspention from its service with effect from 14.9 185. Disciplinary proceedings against the officer have also been initiated.

Loan for fishing trawlers

857. PROF. B. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount of loan drawn by the fishing trawlers owners from the Shipping Development Fund Committee and various nationalised banks so far;

(b) how many of them have not so far made any payment to the SDFC and the nationalised banks;

(c) what steps Government are taking to recover the dues; and

(d) what are the reasons for which the SDFC and the nationalised banks are not declaring the individual companies who did not pay dues as sick industries and take over the trawlers which could be easily auctioned to recover the dues in the same manner as in other sick industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Prior to the abolition of the Shipping Development Fund Committee on 3rd April 1987, Rs. 60.76 crores was drawn as loan by deep-sea fishing trawler companies. Subsequently, during the period, 3rd April 1987, till 31st January 1988, Rs. 12.71 crores has been disbursed by Government to deep-sea fishing trawler companies and, in addition, the Shipping Credit & Investment Company of India Ltd. has provided loan assistance respect of fresh proposals to the extent of Rs. 3.72 crores.

(b) Till 31st January 1988, 39 companies had defaulted in payment to Government of instalments of the principal and/or of interest due.

(c) and (d) For recovering dues from defaulting fishing-trawler companies, the Shipping Credit & Investment Company of India Ltd., which has been notified as the 'designated person', has been advised to initiate action in accordance with the provisions of Chapter-III of the Shipping Development Fund Committee (Abolition) Act, 1986. The said Act permits, *inter-alia*, the appointment of Receivers in such companies, who have the power to sell such vessels by public auction, or to use, operate, charter or lease such vessels to generate incomes, rents or profits to meet the liabilities of the defaulting companies to Government.

Water development in respect of peninsular rivers

858. PROF. B. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Water Development Agency has discussed a proposal for water development in respect of peninsular rivers;

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal;

(c) what is the quantum of surplus water that can be transferred from some of the rivers having surplus water to those having less water; and

(d) what are the details of the plan to divert part of west flowing rivers in Kerala to the east for irrigation and to save chronic drought affected areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) The National Water Development Agency is engaged in the investigations and feasibility studies of Peninsular Rivers Development Component of the National Perspectives for Water Resources Development. The Society of the National Water Development Agency recently discussed a note on